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June 19, 2007

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/108,189**  
**For: AN INTRODUCER SHEATH FOR USE DURING**  
**A SURGICAL PROCEDURE**  
**Our Reference: 23660-00611**

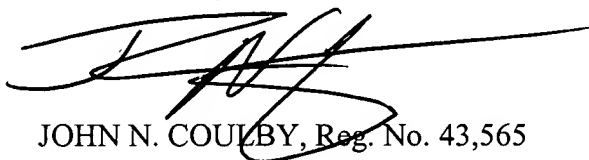
Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-referenced application are the following documents: (1) Transmittal Form; and (2) Amendment and Response (4 pages).

Please charge any fees due for this submission to Deposit Account No. 03-2469.

Please date-stamp the enclosed copy of this letter, acknowledging receipt of the above-identified documents, and return it to us.

Sincerely yours,



JOHN N. COULBY, Reg. No. 43,565

Enclosures

cc: Howard M. Tanner  
Hugh H. Trout



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## TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

6

Application Number	09/108,189
Filing Date	July 1, 1998
First Named Inventor	Howard M. Tanner
Art Unit	3767
Examiner Name	E. MacNeill
Attorney Docket Number	23660-00611

### ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form<br><input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply<br><input type="checkbox"/> After Final<br><input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/<br>Incomplete Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts<br>under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a<br>Provisional Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation<br>Change of Correspondence Address<br><input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund<br><input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____<br><input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board<br>of Appeals and Interferences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC<br>(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information<br><input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify<br>below): |
|---|--|---|

Remarks

### SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	KELLEY DRYE & WARREN LLP		
Signature			
Printed name	JOHN N. COULBY		
Date	June 19, 2007	Reg. No.	43,565

### CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

Signature			
Typed or printed name		Date	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: **Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re  
Application of:                   Howard Tanner, et al.

Serial No.:                       09/108,189                       Examiner: E. MacNeill

Filed:                             July 1, 1998                       Group: 3767

For:                               AN INTRODUCER SHEATH FOR USE DURING A SURGICAL  
PROCEDURE

Attorney Docket #:           23660-00611                       Confirmation No. 9021

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sirs:

In response to the Office Action dated March 19, 2007, please consider the following remarks.